



CLAIBORNE COUNTY MAYOR'S OFFICE

Jack Daniels
County Mayor

June 15, 2011
Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

CC:
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I recently learned about AT&T's proposal to merge with T-Mobile USA, which is under review in the Commission's 11-65 docket. I am writing to share some ways that this merger could positively affect Claiborne County.

Our rural county is always looking for ways to improve access to important resources for the betterment of our citizens and the strengthening of our businesses. Today, access to technology is essential in order to compete and create opportunity in a digital economy. In fact, equal access to technology is increasingly becoming a basic right that all citizens should have, and, just as other fundamental rights, should not be contingent on geographic location.

Therefore, we would definitely welcome an improved network in Claiborne County where our businesses can stay connected and our students can do better preparation at home with improved mobile broadband access. As such, allowing AT&T to merge with T-Mobile is highly likely to be of direct benefit to Claiborne County.

Combined, their network area will be expanded by one million square miles. In my opinion, there would have to be some very compelling reasons to force these two highly-regarded companies to abandon these ambitious plans. I hope you don't find any as you carry out your due diligence on this case and are able to authorize the transaction summarily.

Cordially,

Jack Daniels
Mayor, Claiborne County